

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

At page 1, after title of the invention, please amend the following paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120 to, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/619,405, filed on July 14, 2003, by Paul V. Cooper, now U.S. Patent No. 7,507,367 issued March 24, 2009 and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/620,318, filed on July 14, 2003, by Paul V. Cooper, now U.S. Patent No. 7,731,891 issued June 8, 2010.

Please amend paragraph [005] as follows:

[005] Molten metal pump casings and rotors usually employ a bearing system comprising ceramic rings wherein there are one or more rings on the rotor that align with rings in the pump chamber (such as rings at the inlet (which is usually the top of the pump chamber and bottom of the pump chamber) when the rotor is placed in the pump chamber. The purpose of the bearing system is to reduce damage to the soft, graphite components, particularly the rotor and pump chamber wall, during pump operation. A known bearing system is described in U.S. Patent No. 5,203,681 to Cooper, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. As discussed in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,591,243 and 6,093,000, each to Cooper, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference, bearing rings can cause various operational and shipping problems and U.S. Patent No. 6,093,000 discloses rigid coupling designs and a monolithic rotor to help alleviate this problem. Further, U.S. Patent No. 2,948,524 to Sweeney et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,169,584 to Mangalick, U.S. Patent No. 5,203,681 to Cooper and U.S. Patent No. 6,123,523 to Cooper (the disclosures of the afore-mentioned patents to Cooper, insofar as such disclosures are not inconsistent with the teachings of this application, are incorporated herein by reference) all disclose molten metal pumps. Furthermore, copending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/773,102 to Cooper, filed on February 4, 2004 and entitled "Pump With Rotating Inlet," now U.S. Patent No. 7,402,276 issued July 22, 2008 discloses, among other things, a pump having an

inlet and rotor structure (or other displacement structure) that rotate together as the pump operates in order to alleviate jamming. The disclosure of this copending application, insofar as such disclosures are not inconsistent with the teachings of this application, is incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend paragraph [025] as follows:

[025] The preferred rotor is device 100 as disclosed in co-pending application entitled “Pump with Rotating Inlet,” invented by Paul V. Cooper, the disclosure of which was previously incorporated herein by reference. A preferred coupling, rotor shaft and connection between the rotor shaft and device 100 are disclosed in a co-pending application entitled “Molten Metal Pump Components,” invented by Paul V. Cooper and filed on February 4, 2004, U.S. Application No. 10/773,105, now U.S. Patent No. 7,470,392, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. Various pump components that may be used with a pump according to the invention are disclosed in copending U.S. Application No. 10/773,105, filed on February 4, 2004 and entitled “Molten Metal Pump Components,” invented by Paul V. Cooper, now U.S. Patent No. 7,470,392.